EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Migration of unemployed youth from Gujarat

446. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the educated unemployed youth of Gujarat have to be migrated to the other States[7] Union Territories due to ever increasing unemployment problem in the State;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by Government for creating employment opportunities for them; and

(c) the funds allocated by Government to the State for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Agricultural marketing network in the country

447. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any steps for strengthening, upgrading and expanding agricultural marketing network in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of agricultural marketing network in various States, particularly in Gujarat;

(c) whether the expert panel on the Agricultural Marketing have submitted their recommendations in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government on tho.«e recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Expert Group on Agricultural Marketing under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.S. Acharya, Director, Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur has been ! constituted on 31.7.1998 to suggest measures to strengthen the Agricultural Marketing Division of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) and to widen its scope to facilitate rural marketing network etc. as growth centres in rural areas as part of rural development.

So far 26 State/UTs have enacted their own Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act. At present, there are 7230 regulated markets in the country. Further, the State Government of Gujarat has enacted its own Gujarat Ag-ricutural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963. The State of Gujarat has 397 regulated markets as on 31.3.1998.

(c) The recommendations of the Expert Group on Agricultural Marketing are still awaited.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

Financial and physical progress in KBK districts of Orissa

448. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the district-wise position of financial and physical progress during 1997-98 and 1998-99 in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): The district-wise position of financial & physical progress of the following schemes during 1997-98 and 1998-99 in KBK districts of Orissa is enclosed 1 to 12 [See appendix 185, Annexure Nos. II]

1. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY)
2. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)